

Amendments to the Abstract

Please amend the abstract as follows:

A method for reducing a number of bits representing an encoded communication signal is disclosed. ~~By this method, including classifying~~ frames of an encoded signal are ~~classified~~ according to at least one characterization criterion selected from among a plurality of predetermined characterization criteria, and ~~selecting~~ a representation signal ~~is selected~~ for each of the frames, wherein the total number of bits comprised in the selected representation signals is less than the number of bits comprised in the encoded communication signal.